



Media Release

22 February 2016

For immediate release

RE: SEATLESS OPPOSITION VOW TO MARCH

A story printed on page two of today's Namibian Sun newspaper under the heading **"Seatless opposition vow to march"**, has reference. The story is said to have been generated from a press conference held last week by the three political parties, namely: the National Democratic Party (NDP), Christian Democratic Voice (CDV) and the Namibian Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF).

The story contained misinformation which, if not addressed, may create confusion in the public domain. It infers that once a political party is formed on the Namibian Political landscape, it automatically qualifies for Funding of Political Parties program (State/public party funding). This also seems to imply that the National Assembly determines which political party to subsidise or not.

The facts are:

1. The Funding of Political Parties is a legal entitlement as stipulated in Chapter 4, Part 3 of the Electoral Act, (Act NO. 5 of 2014).
2. The fund allocation formula is determined by section 155 of Part 3, Chapter 4, of the Electoral Act 2014 (Act NO. 5 of 2014), and based on the principle of proportional representation as determined in Article 49 and Schedule 4 of the Namibian Constitution.
3. And as such, **ONLY** political parties represented in Parliament are entitled to receive public funding, based on the number of seats parties have in Parliament. The number of seats in Parliament determines the "weight" of the mandate which the political parties have received from the electorate through popular elections, and hence the amount of money they are entitled to from Political Party funding.

The above-mentioned parties participated the 2014 National Assembly Elections but failed to secure seats in the National Assembly, therefore the National Assembly as per Electoral Act of 2014 (Act NO. 5 of 2014) has no obligation whatsoever to fund political parties outside the stipulations of the said Act and the Namibian Constitution.

The issues that the three political parties are raising are therefore completely outside the mandate of the National Assembly.

ENDS

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